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# The Brandon Mail.

VOL. 3.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1886

NO. 39

Brandon Weekly Mail.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1886.

THE ELEVATOR MONOPOLY.

Some people are never happy unless they are over their ears in matters altogether beyond their comprehension, and of such is the editor of the tar factory behind the stables. Because a report was in circulation that the elevator men had combined to advance rates, he chimed in with the chorus, to make himself popular with the masses, to prove the tar barrel is of a truth the people's friend. Its efforts are proven to be "down on" monopolies of every description, save and except those of government printing. But let us direct its attention to the elevator men, and let it hear what Pat Murphy has to say. "We have seen a number of elevator men, and we question if there be one he has not seen, who has handled wheat here and in the States, and they assure us that the cost of handling grain in an elevator does not cost more than three-eighths of a cent a bushel."

"Cost does not cost," is a choice expression, and is fully in keeping with the logic of the article. Let us now examine the facts: the elevators in this city cost \$10,000, the interest on which at 12 1/2% a reasonable rate on buildings and machinery subject to wear, is \$1,200. Insurance at 3 1/4% on this is \$375. It takes two men on an average to operate an elevator, whose salary is, say \$1,000. It will take 100 cords of wood to last an elevator 8 months, the wheat season, which will cost at \$4.00. These added are \$2,975, and other incidentals will run the total to \$3,000. Last year there were a million bushels of wheat handled here, and this year the crop will not exceed probably 800,000 bushels, which divided among the five elevators will limit each one's handling to 160,000 bushels. Now, it will take exactly a cent and seven-eighths per bushel on this quantity to realize the \$3,000 of expenses found above. But a careful business man cannot run business on a margin of actual cost—he must calculate something on breakages, losses by accident, and other three rights per bushel, will leave but \$1.00 for this. If the business runs on smoothly, this profit could be disposed with, but as no one knows what accidents may occur, until the season is over, it is then too late to make preparation to meet them. Will Pat Murphy kindly show how his three-eighths of a cent evaporates in the face of facts? Evidently the tar barrel knows more about elevating grain than he does about elevating wheat. Why, wheat is not his forte. It might, and it might not be to the interest of the people to encourage the tar warehouse system, but even if it was, it is no proof that 2 1/2 cents for elevators is the extortion it is said to be. As, however, the charge comes out of the buyer instead of out of the farmer, it cannot at all operate in the way the tar factory insinuates, against Brandon as a wheat market, as the parties who pay these charges will have still to pay the prices paid by the elevator proprietors, in order to secure any part of the business. Will Pat Murphy see the better after this, and if not we will give him another eye opener.

Without, in places like Oswego, where large elevators have business to keep them running to their full capacity day and night, the year round, they can be operated on a less margin than two and a quarter cents; but it is always reasonable to deal with such matters in their circumstances. If the tar barrel sees more money in elevators, even at two and a quarter cents for elevating than there is in a patient, backed newspaper, he can buy all in this city at about half their cost, and then prove himself to be the Moses that he asserts himself to be.

We had concluded to let further criticism of the manner in which Mr. Kirchhofer carried the nomination in this constituency, drop; but from last week's issue of the tar barrel, it is quite evident Mr. Kirchhofer and his friends delight in stirring it up, even in the knowledge that the more it is stirred the more it smells. As we have repeatedly said, our only objection to Mr. K.'s candidature is that, if elected, he will never think he can do enough in support of the government, even in a policy that the bulk of the party knows is rotten to the core.

Our main objection is to the manner in which he got his nomination. In April last, he wrote letters to the Mail, and got Grits in Glenwood, knowing them to be Grits and officers of the Reform Association, to sign them lauding himself to the skies, and he subsequently smuggled these Grits into the convention as delegates, at assemblies made up in part, of persons who were non-electors, to the prejudice of the bona fide and sincere Conservatives, and who are honest Conservatives. That these Grits do not represent the Conservatives of the municipality, and that the convention as a consequence was not a representative one, it needs no argument to prove. Again by persuading people East of Brandon he could secure the construction of a line of railway that he knew existed only in his own mind, he secured delegates in that part favorable to his candidature. With a convention so constituted he secured a majority by one delegate for some unexplained reason giving way. A selection in this way he considers a selection by "the majority of the party," and he, the man who not only worked but voted against the nomination of the Conservative party, on an occasion in Ontario, as we are informed, calls all "traitors" who choose to take a different view of a party choice.

But even that the convention has gone as it has, we would not have written half what we have, but for the persistency with which he and his bosom friends lie about the position of Mr. Cliffe in the matter. They even say that he is still striving to get a nomination there, although it is a well known fact, he would not accept it now if Mr. K. was forced out of the field, much less run as a third candidate. By Mr. Cliffe's continuing the mass meeting his only desire was, as was that of the three vice-presidents who signed the bill to ascertain the feeling of the party in the division, if they could be got together. As there were but few there besides those urged by Mr. K. to be present, nothing more is now known about how matters stand there, before, but we presume Mr. K. will know after the election.

We do not consider it our duty to deal with the falsehoods and blackguardisms of the correspondence inspired if not written by Mr. Kirchhofer, as by touching a sweep we can expect nothing but soot; but the public must be allowed to have their own opinion as to how Mr. Kirchhofer and Mr. W. A. Macdonald, can handle Mr. Healy and Mr. Cliffe on a platform. If those gentlemen want to court exhibitions of that kind, they can have their fill of it before the electors when the campaign opens. Mr. K. and his friends say too in the correspondence, that they were prepared to treat Mr. Cliffe to a dose of added eggs. Doubtless they were. As a rule gentlemen, who know, always handle weapons they are most acquainted with; but we advise them to retain those eggs, and to set to work handling more till the close of the polls, to pelt at those Conservatives who refuse to vote for candidates brought out by Grits, and by a system of scheming that no gentleman would stoop to employ.

Cliffe in the matter. They even say that he is still striving to get a nomination there, although it is a well known fact, he would not accept it now if Mr. K. was forced out of the field, much less run as a third candidate. By Mr. Cliffe's continuing the mass meeting his only desire was, as was that of the three vice-presidents who signed the bill to ascertain the feeling of the party in the division, if they could be got together. As there were but few there besides those urged by Mr. K. to be present, nothing more is now known about how matters stand there, before, but we presume Mr. K. will know after the election.

THE WAY THE MONEY GOES.

As some people are inclined to say that personal feeling is at the bottom of the MAIL's criticisms of the expenditures of the Local Government, we herewith submit a statement that ought to disabuse the minds of the people if anything will. The statement is nothing less than the published estimates of last session for the Department of Agriculture for the present year. We give the items just as they appear:

AGRICULTURE, & H. DEPARTMENT.

SALARIES.	
Minister.....	\$3,000 00
Chief Minister.....	2,000 00
Deputy Chief and Accountant.....	1,400 00
Clerk of Agriculture.....	800 00
Chief of Agricultural Statistics (to be reformed by Dom. Gov't.).....	1,100 00
Stenographer.....	1,000 00
Junior Clerk.....	300 00
Messenger.....	300 00
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$5,900 00</b>

GENERAL CHARGES.

Printing and Stationery.....	\$1,000 00
Postage.....	250 00
Telegraphing and Telegraphy.....	400 00
Incidentals.....	800 00
Office Equipment.....	500 00
Unforeseen.....	400 00
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$3,350 00</b>

AGRICULTURE.

Board of Agriculture.....	\$2,500 00
Permanent Exhibition Buildings.....	5,000 00
Electrical Exp. Ag. Societies.....	6,000 00
Agricultural Statistics (to be reformed by Dom. Gov't.).....	1,400 00
Manitoba Pest Stock Club.....	100 00
Destruction of Noxious Weeds.....	2,000 00
Museum.....	1,000 00
Director of Animals.....	5,000 00
Weather Service.....	500 00
Dairy Instruction.....	2,500 00
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$26,000 00</b>

STATISTICS.

Vital Statistics/Registrations.....	\$750 00
Old Church Registers.....	400 00
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$1,150 00</b>

PUBLIC HEALTH.

Hospitals.....	\$1,212 75
Health Administration.....	5,000 00
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$1,212 75</b>

MISCELLANEOUS.

Protection of Game.....	\$ 100 00
Marriage License Administration.....	400 00
University of Manitoba License Fees for 1884.....	3,000 00
Immigration.....	2,000 00
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$5,500 00</b>

It will be seen by this that nearly \$62,000, or one eighth of the receipts of the province from all sources, is exhausted in this department, and that of the amount, but the total of the following items reaches the people:

Elect. Div. Ag. Societies.....	\$ 6,000 00
Diseases of Animals.....	5,000 00
Dairy Instruction.....	2,500 00
Public Health.....	1,212 75
Immigration.....	2,000 00
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$30,212 75</b>

If Mr. Barrows, secretary of the board of agriculture who draws a salary of \$200 a year, we believe, can agree the trustee to the Manitoba and act as deputy minister of agriculture at \$2,000 a year as well, we think a puny thing he made in one of the offices, and as for his "noxious weeds" instructions, and statistics the public at large consider them a nuisance rather than anything else. If 100 the government could take at one time \$3,000 out of the small poor appropriation for Emerson and have it applied on a printing bill, of the International against the town of Emerson, it is a clear case the appropriation for the public health of the province is certainly abused, there are matters all persons who really want to become posted on how the affairs of the country are conducted should make themselves thoroughly acquainted with.

All eyes appear to be turned towards the construction of the Hudson's Bay Railway, as the only means of making Manitoba and the Northwest what its most ardent admirers desire it to be—the home of wealthy millions in a few years. That the road will be built, and operated in connection with a line of steamers revolutionizing the progress and progress of this country may be taken as a

settled fact, though the date of completion is still a matter of much uncertainty. It is, however, apparent its successful and profitable operation can only be managed by some other railway company in operation in the Northwest—such as the C. P. R. All authorities agree that the navigation of Hudson's Straits does not exceed 10 months in the year, and though that is certainly long in the hands of properly constructed steamers, is so all that may be desired of the outlet, it is but a further proof the railway in conjunction must be owned, as we have just said, by a company already operating in this country. It is a fact patent to every one that the Local trade of the C. P. R. east of Fort Arthur, except what may yet be developed at South St. Marie, is worth next to nothing, and would not pay the expenses of a train a month. As the Hudson's Bay Railway will pass through a similar country to that back of Lake Superior, it is evident its local business, for a long time, at least cannot be important. As the grain crop of this country cannot reach the English market the all it is harvested via the Hudson's Bay any other than by its present outlet, the road can be operated for a length of time, after navigation closes hauling the crop for storage at the Bay, it can be run profitably until the winter sets in, and again to advantage when the snow leaves in the spring, and before navigation, but in the absence of local traffic or return cargoes of any kind in the winter, it is quite evident it could only be operated at a loss the winter months. If, however, the road was owned by another line that could employ the rolling stock and roadlands elsewhere in the winter, the main obstacle in the way would be fully met. The country, however, wants the road, all interests call for it, and doubtless, if once constructed, circumstances would be found to meet the necessities of the case in some satisfactory form.

The good Senator in the tar factory had the teaching profession under his wing last week and taught a lesson on tidal waves that is a personal regard for Norquay. Mr. Cliffe delivered an address to the teachers at the assembly, last Friday week; and because he addressed unimpeachable proof the Local Government is not doing what it ought to do for the cause of education in the province, the teachers are told to "frown down all attempts of irresponsible parties to introduce political questions." They are to hold their meetings for the benefit of their "own work and interests," the "benefit of interests" is a nice expression from a teacher of teachers, well if the advance of salaries and the means of securing it is not for the benefit of teachers' interests. We need not know what the local government is doing, but we know what the teachers are doing. They are, however, looking more carefully into this matter. As we showed in our last issue Manitoba gives but 10% of its entire revenue for the benefit of schools, while Ontario gives 12, British Columbia 13, New Brunswick 28, Nova Scotia 33 and Prince Edward Island 45. Now, what does this prove? Absolutely that the rest of our provinces are absolutely away as they are in our own province. But the tar barrel is wise in saying and generation it knows that the more there is given for schools the less there is for printing, and it is for the benefit of that interest instead of that of the teacher's eyes are always open. New Brunswick gives but \$11,000 out of \$500,000, or say 2 1/4% for printing, while it gives 25% for education. It is, therefore, for the benefit of the tar barrel's interest that the teachers should know nothing about their mouths and shut for Norquay. The teachers of western Manitoba will, however, one and all find the MAIL their true friend, and always speaking for the benefit of their interests; no matter how much interested croakers may endeavor to destroy the spell. In this connection, we may remark, that it is a singular circumstance, the teachers of Manitoba though numbering about 300 are making an effort to send any one specially in their interests to the Local Legislature while the legal fraternity though numbering less than 60, are striving to send two of their number there. The teachers are to take whatever treatment they get from the legislature monthly, while the lawyers and the tar barrels are permitted to plunder the public.

It was also a small piece of business, on the part of the "real school" reporter, to omit all mention of the name of the Rev. Mr. Danahy, who acted as chairman during the evening last, but paper explains a great deal. We may further say that if the scribble will only brush the cobwebs from his vision he will see the evening session referred to was one for the benefit of the



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h St. Brandon







